

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 FEA-02

SCI-06 AEC-11 SR-02 ORM-03 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

INT-08 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-03 STR-08 CEA-02 SWF-02

AGR-20 SPM-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /291 W
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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4079

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CANBERRA 6029

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, AS

SUBJECT: KEY ISSUES AT 29TH UNGA

REF: A) STATE 184584; B) STATE 199150

1. SUMMARY: AUSTRALIAN STANCE AT 29TH UNGA WILL BE GENERALLY CLOSE TO U.S. POSITION, AS DESCRIBED IN REFTELS. PRINCIPAL DIFFERENCES CONCERN EVALUATION OF SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION AND VIEW OF "STEAMROLLER TACTICS" OF LDC'S, AFRICAN ISSUES, AND DISARMAMENT. AUSTRALIAN VIEWS ON PUERTO RICO AND ON KHMER CREDENTIALS ARE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF U.S., AND ULTIMATE VOTE WILL BE INFLUENCED BY CIRCUMSTANCES. AUSTRALIANS WILL BE PROMOTING CANDIDACY OF FOREIGN MINISTER FOR PRESIDENCY OF 30TH GA AND IMPROVED INTERNATIONAL ASYLUM ARRANGEMENTS. AUSTRALIA ANTICIPATES CRITICISM OF ITS ADMINISTRATION OF COCOS ISLANDS BY COMMITTEE OF 24. END SUMMARY.

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2. PROCESS OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT IN AUSTRALIAN DEPT OF

FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONCERNING STANCE AT 29TH UNGA HAD NOT REACHED POINT WHERE EMBASSY COULD PROFITABLY REVIEW FORTHCOMING SESSION WITH DFA UNTIL SEPT 13. DFA RECOMMENDATIONS TO FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE HAVE NOW BEEN CONFIRMED, AND GENERAL PICTURE OF AUSTRALIAN POSITIONS AS FOLLOWS:

3. ACCORDING TO JOHN PIPER (ASST SECRETARY, UN BRANCH, DFA) GENERAL AUSTRALIAN POSITIONS WILL BE CLOSE TO U.S. ON MOST ISSUES, BUT THERE ARE SOME DIFFERENCES OF NUANCE, PARTICULARLY IN FOL AREAS:

A) EVALUATION OF SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA- GOA RECOGNIZES CONCERN OF 75. OVER MANNER IN WHICH MAJORITY OF SMALL NATIONS USED STEAMROLLER TACTICS TO WORK THEIR WILL IN SPECIAL SESSION. HOWEVER, GOA FEELS THAT EXISTING INTERNATIONAL RULES OF THE ROAD, INCLUDING IN UN, WERE ESSENTIALLY WRITTEN WHEN U.S. AND OTHER LARGE COUNTRIES THOROUGHLY DOMINATED WORLD AND ACCOUNTED FOR BULK OF WORLD TRADE. AUSTRALIA CONSIDERS THAT THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL SHIFT OF WORLD ECONOMIC POWER NOW OCCURRING AND BELIEVES THAT SOME CHANGE IS BOTH INEVITABLE AND DESIRABLE, IN INTERNATIONAL RULES OF ROAD. SPECIAL SESSION WAS FUMBLING ATTEMPT AT SUCH CHANGE.

B) AFRICAN ISSUES - AUSTRALIA ANTICIPATES REAL TROUBLE ON SOUTH AFRICAN AUSTRALIAN CREDENTIALS, WITH ALGERIAN PRESIDENT OF GA. ALTHOUGH AUSTRALIAN POSITION NOT FULLY DEVELOPED IN ITS ULTIMATE IMPLICATIONS, AUSTRALIA MAY ABSTAIN ON CHALLENGE TO SOUTH AFRICAN CREDENTIALS, SINCE JAPAN AND ASEAN COUNTRIES, TO WHOSE VIEWS AUSTRALIA ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE, WILL BE ABSTAINING. ON NAMIBIA, AUSTRALIA MAY WELL BE PUSHING HARDER THAN IN PAST FOR STRONGER ACTION IN VIEW OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTRANSIGENCE. MUCH WILL DEPEND, HOWEVER, ON RESOLUTION FINALLY BROUGHT OUT.

C) DISARMAMENT- AUSTRALIA STRONGLY FAVORS ACTION ON DISARMAMENT, PARTICULARLY IN DIRECTION OF STRENGTHENING NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. AUSTRALIA WILL PROBABLY URGE

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U.S. AND USSR TO ACCELERATE ACTION TO STRENGTHEN NPT, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF INDIAN EXPLOSION LAST MAY. GOA FEELS THAT U.S. AND USSR ARE TAKING RATHER COMPLACENT AND NEUTRAL VIEW OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION.

D) PUERTO RICO- AUSTRALIA HOPES THAT PUERTO RICO WILL NOT COME UP, AS IT DID AT LAST GOA. HOWEVER, THERE IS AN ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION (WE DO NOT HAVE COPY OF

SECRETARIAT DOCUMENT ON AGENDA, THOUGH DFA HAS COPY;
DIFFICULT TO DISCUSS SOME ISSUES WITHOUT ADEQUATE KNOW-
LEDGE OF WHAT IS GOING ON IN NEW YORK) TOUCHING ON PUERTO
RICO. AUSTRALIA TENDS TO VIEW THAT UNGA IS PLACE TO
CONSIDER ISSUES WHICH MEMBERS RAISE AND WILL BE RELUCTANT
TO OPPOSE DISCUSSION OF MATTER TOUCHING ON PUERTO RICO.

E) KHMER CREDENTIALS- AUSTRALIANS WILL NOT OPPOSE
TAKING UP KHMER ITEM, THOUGH WILL SUPPORT GKR ON SUBSTANTIVE
RESOLUTION. AUSTRALIANS ANTICIPATE THERE MAY BE
CHALLENGE TO CREDENTIALS OF GKR DELEGATION BUT THAT
CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE WILL DEFER DECISION UNTIL KHMER
REPRESENTATION ITEM IS TAKEN UP, PERHAPS IN NOVEMBER.

MEANWHILE , GKR DELEGATION WILL BE SEATED. (BEST CHANCE
OF GETTING AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT WILL BE TO KEEP THEM
FULLY INFORMED ON TACTICS.)

4. AUSTRALIA WILL BE PUSHING THREE ITEMS IN FORTHCOMING
UNGA :1) CANDIDACY OF SENATOR WILLESEE AS PRESIDENT
OF 1975 UNGA ; 2) EFFORT TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL SETTLE-
MENT OF DISPUTES; AND 3) EFFORT TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON
IMPROVED SYSTEMS OF GRANTING AND RECOGNIZING ASYLUM,
GROWING OUT OF OVERTHROW OF ALLENDE GOVERNMENT IN CHILE
IN 1973. AUSTRALIA ANTICIPATES THAT VISITING MISSION OF
COMMITTEE OF 24 WILL TABLE CRITICAL COMMENT ON ITS VISIT
TO COCOS ISLANDS IN AUGUST. INDEPENDENCE DATE FOR PAPUA
NEW GUINEA WILL PROBABLY NOT BE SETTLED DURING 29TH UNGA,
BUT AUSTRALIA ANTICIPATES THAT IT WILL NOT ENCOUNTER ANY
SERIOUS PROBLEMS, AS INDEPENDENCE FOR PNG IS CLEARLY
CLOSE, AND TIMING IS MATTER FOR PNG GOVERNMENT.

5. DFA HAS COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS ON SUBJECT HEADINGS IN
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REF A. WE HAVE ELIMINATED TIEMS ALREADY ABOVE:

A) LDC USE OF NUMBERS IN GA- AUSTRALIA APPRECIATES
PROBLEM BUT WILL SEEK TO KEEP IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH LDC'S.
LABOR GOVERNMENT FEELS IT HAS NUMBER OF POINTS OF
IDENTITY WITH THEM. HOW THIS AFFECTS PATTERN OF AUSTRALIAN
VOTING WILL DEPEND ON DETAILS OF RESOLUTIONS INVOLVED.

B) LDC UNITY MAY FALTER - THIS IS VIEW OF DFA POLICY
PLANNERS, BUT MOST OF DFA DOES NOT AGREE THAT THIS IS
HAPPENING, AS YET. EVEN IF SOME DIFFERENCES OF INTEREST
HAVE APPEARED E.G., BETWEEN OIL-RICH ARAB STATES AND
SOME RESOURCE -POOR LDC'S --THEY HAVE CONTINUED TO AGREE
ON MANY ISSUES.

C) PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES -AUSTRALIA BASICALLY

AGREES WITH U.S. POSITION.

D) RHODESIA - AUSTRALIA HAS ALREADY GONE FURTHER
THAN U.S. IN PAST AND WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE SERIOUS
CONSIDERATION TO MORE RADICAL RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION,
BROUGHT IN BY BLACK AFRICAN STATES.

E) HUMAN RIGHTS -LABOR GOVERNMENT STRONGLY SUPPORTS
UN ACTION TO EXPAND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND WILL
VOTE ACCORDINGLY.

F) MIDDLE EAST -PIPER TERMED AUSTRALIAN POSITION
THAT OF -"EVEN HANDEDNESS" WITHOUT SPECIFYING . MUCH WILL
PROBABLY DEPEND ON THS KIND OF RESOLUTION THAT COMES
UP. FOR ITS OWN REASONS, GOA WOULD NOT RPT NOT SUPPORT
MARKEDLY PRO-ISRAELI RESOLUTION, AS UNLIKELY TO BE
APPROVED AND AS UNHELPFUL TO PREACEFUL SETTELEMENT OF
PROBLEM. PRO-ARAB RESOLUTION WOULD ATTACT SUBSTANTIAL
CRITICISM WITHIN RANKS OF LABOR PARTY ITSELF.

G) UNRWA AUSTRALIA HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THIS PROGRAM
IN PASTAND WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO DO SO.

H) UNEF-/UNDOF FINANCING -AUSTRALIA SEES THESE
OPERATIONS AS CONTRIBUTING TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST
AND WILL PROBABLY SUPPORT THEM.
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I) STEAMROLLER TACTICS- AUSTRALIANS, AS NOTED ABOVE,
ARE MORE RELAXED THAN U.S. ON THIS ISSUE. GOA REGARDS
UNGA RESOLUTIONS AS ESSENTIALLY RECOMMENDATORY IN NATURE
AND DOES NOT CONSIDER ITSELF AS BOND BY SUCH RESOLU-
TIONS IF THEY ARE DESTRUCTIVE OR COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4080

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CANBERRA 6029

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, AS

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J) ACTION ON RAW MATERIALS- AUSTRALIA IS VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN THIS ISSUE, AS IT IS DIRECTLY AFFECTED AS ONE OF MAJOR WORLD STOREHOUSES OF RAW MATERIALS. HOWEVER, MUCH WILL DEPEND ON KIND OF RESOLUTION UNDER DISCUSSION.

K) CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS- AS STATE BOTH WHERE FOREIGN INTERESTS INVEST AND WHICH IS BEGINNING TO BE A SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL INVESTOR, AUSTRALIA IS MUCH INTERESTED IN THIS ISSUE. HENCE, GOA HAS SOMEWHAT AMBIGUOUS ATTITUDE ON RIGHTS OF FOREIGN INVESTORS.

1) UN SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR MSA'S A-AUSTRALIA IS BASICALLY SYMPATHETIC TOWARDS PROGRAM AND WILL PROBABLY CONFIDENTIAL

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TAKE IT INTO CONSIDERATION IN DEVELOPING ITS AID PROGRAM.

M) MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS- AUSTRALIA HAS ITS OWN MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS, OPERATING ABROAD, BUT LABOR GOVERNMENT HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN CRITICAL OF MNC'S OPERATING IN AUSTRALIA, AND RESOLUTION WHICH WAS NOT EXCESSIVELY CRITICAL OF MNC'S MIGHT GET AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT.

N) CONFERENCE ON FOOD AND POPULATION- AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH AMBASSADOR

EDWIN MARTIN IN DEPT ON THIS ISSUE. AUSTRALIA IS
BASCIALLY SYMPATHETIC WITH THE PROPOSES OF THIS CONFERENCE.

O) UN DISASTER RELIEF - AUSTRALIA IS BASICALLY
SYMPATHETIC ON THIS ISSUE.

P) UN BUDGET- AUSTRALIA BASICALLY AGREES WITH U.S.
APPROACH.

Q) UN EVALUATION -PIPER SAID GOA IS IN AGREEMENT
WITH NEED FOR IMPROVED EVALUATION SUSTEM FOR UN PROGRAMS.

R) UN SALARY INCREASES -AUSTRALIA IS GENERALLY IN
AGEEMENT WITH U.S. ON THIS ISSUE.
GREEN

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